

V

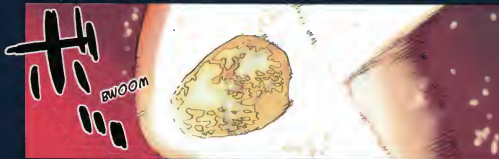
Scanned by KickTheKitty and cleaned by... someone else. ^^

# 7 Billion Needles

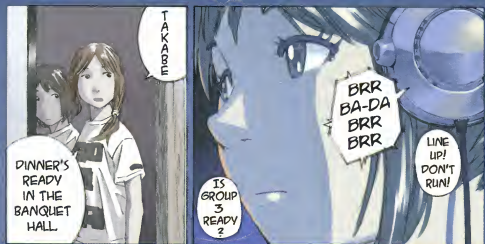
# Nobuaki Tadano

Volume 1



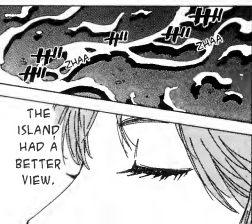


1. You Are Not Alone



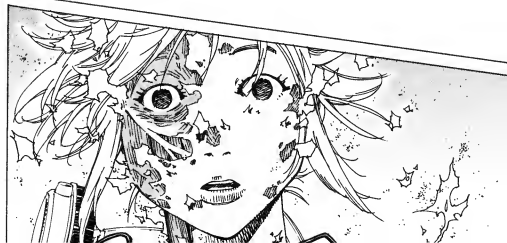
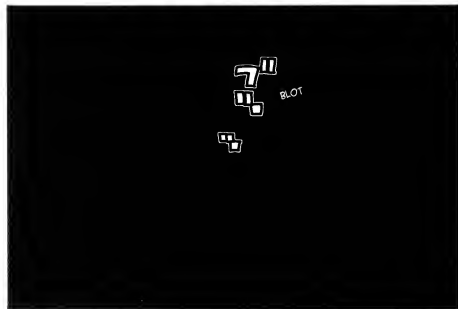
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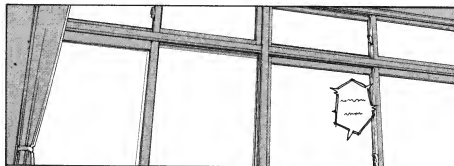
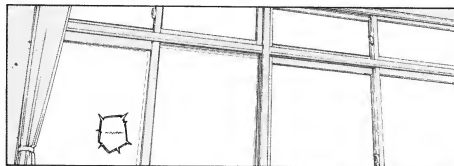
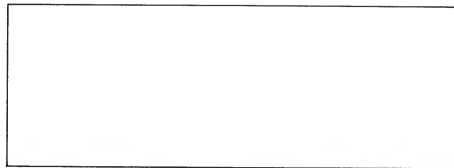


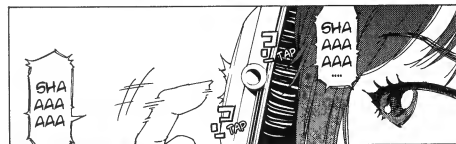
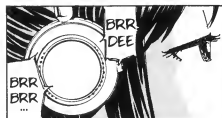




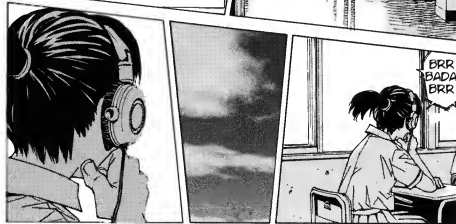
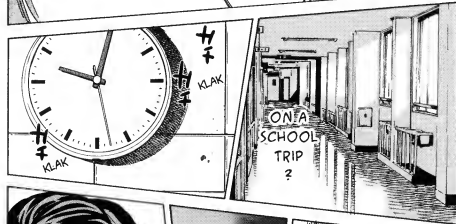


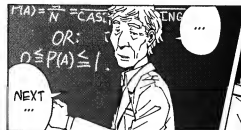
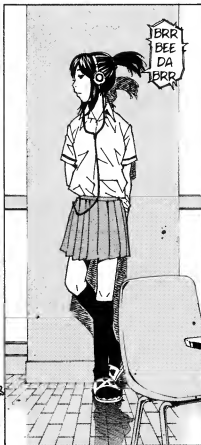




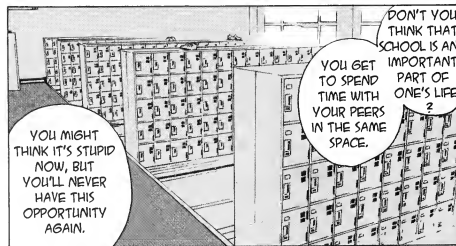
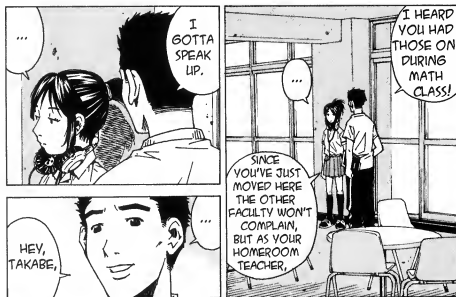


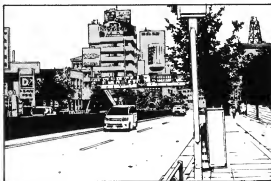
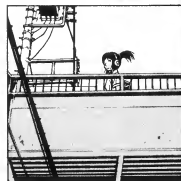
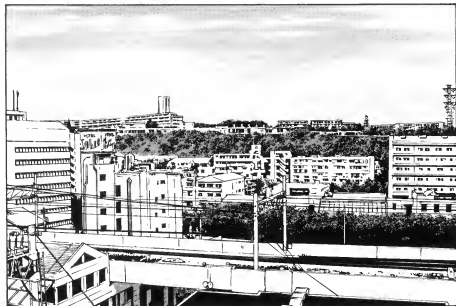
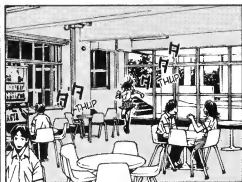
EVENT  
-AN EVENT IS THE OUTCOME  
OF A TRIAL (EXPERIMENTATION &  
OBSERVATION)



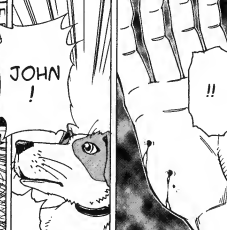


















YOU  
DIED  
ONCE.

YOU  
BURNED  
UP  
WITHOUT  
A TRACE.



WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON?



I'VE FINALLY  
FOUND  
A WAY TO  
TUNE INTO  
YOU...  
SHHHA



WHAT  
THE  
HELL  
?!



THEY'RE  
SELLING  
THEM  
OVER  
THERE

WHERE  
NEXT?

HM?

MOVE!!

PISS  
OFF!

NICE  
TO  
SEE  
YA!

GIVE  
IT  
UP!

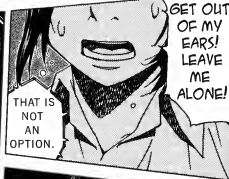
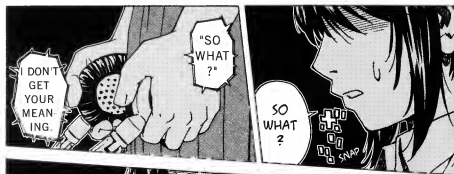
HA  
HA  
HA!

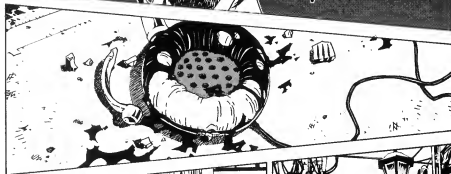


IT WAS  
NO  
DAYDREAM,  
HIKARU.



?!







KA-BLAM

?!

THE  
TUGS

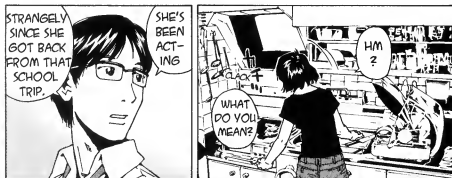
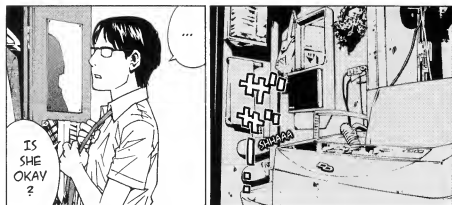
DAMN  
YOU!

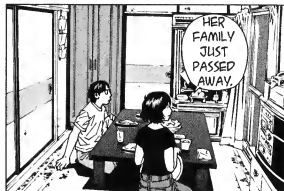
ZZAH

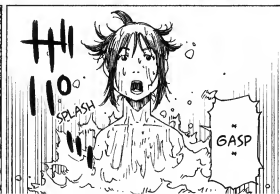
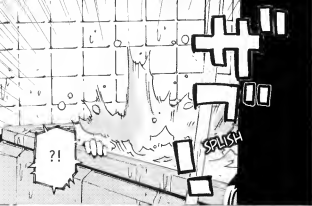
## 2. Leave Me Alone!

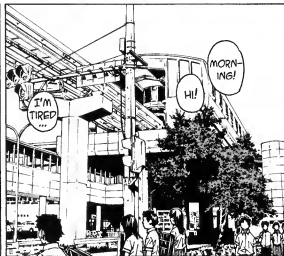
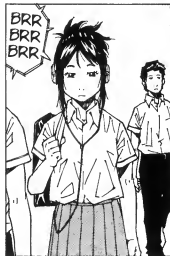
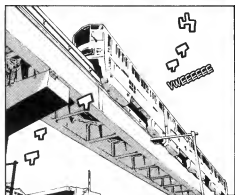
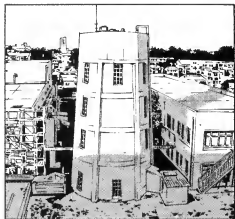


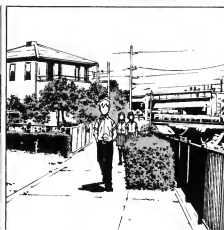
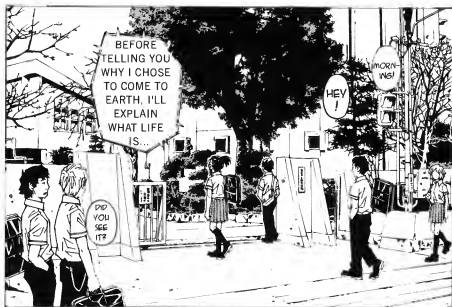
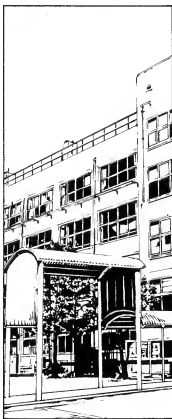
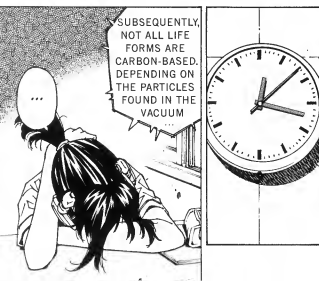
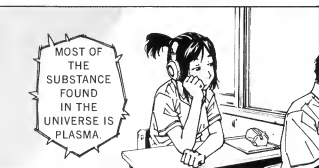




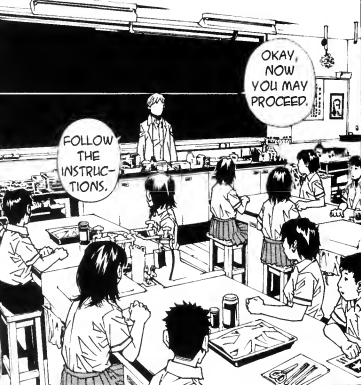


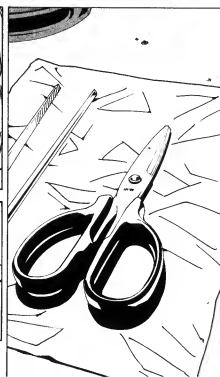
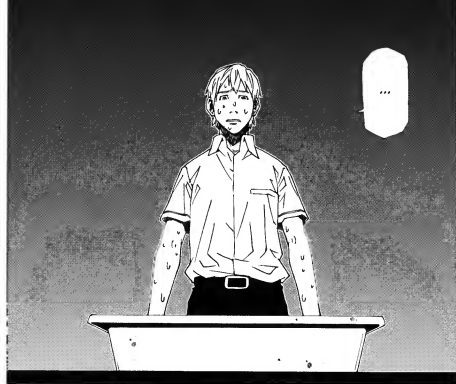
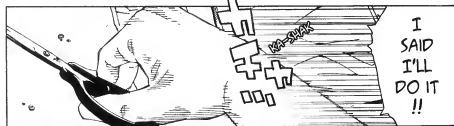


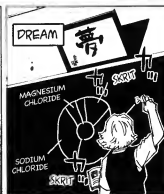














THAT  
WAS...  
UGH...



"PANT"

"PANT"



LUCK!



CRASH



THIS  
BEING  
COULD  
DESTROY  
ALL LIFE  
IN THE  
UNIVERSE



I  
DON'T  
CARE  
!

IT IS  
MAEL-  
STROM  
!

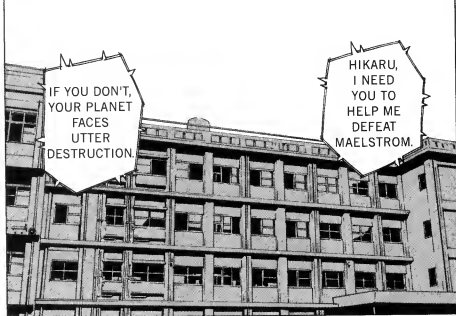


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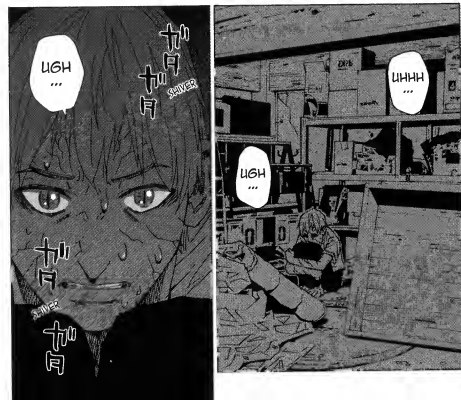
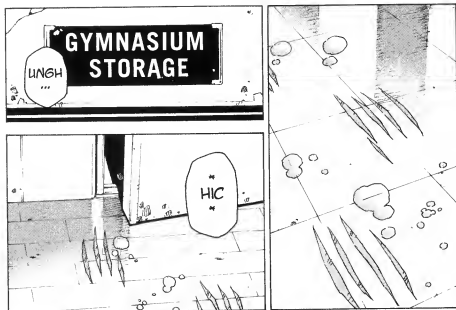
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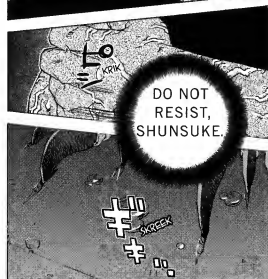
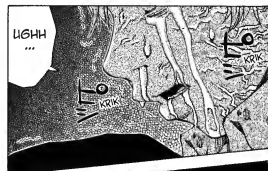


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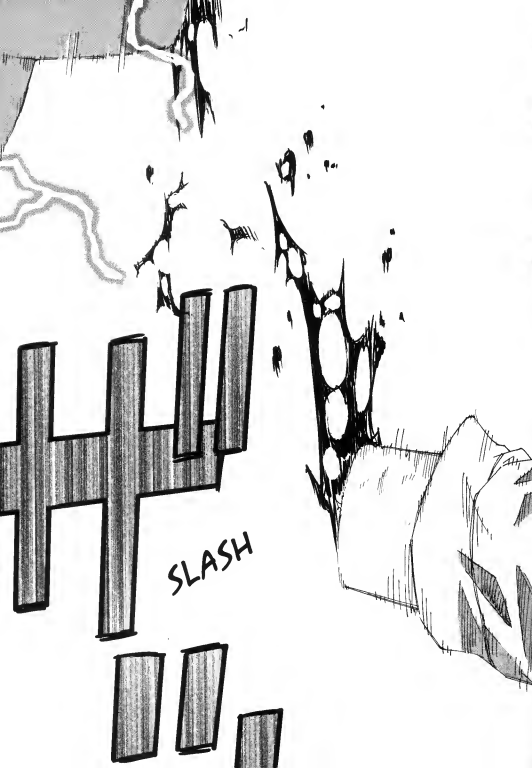




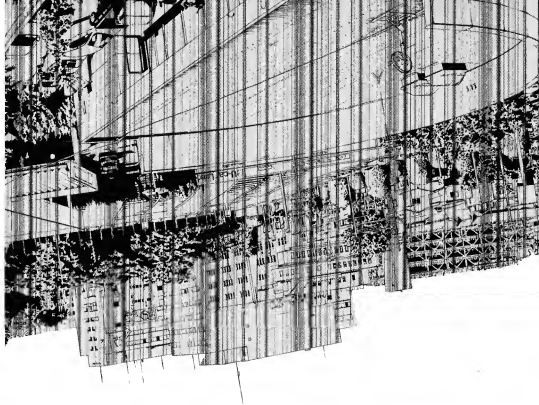
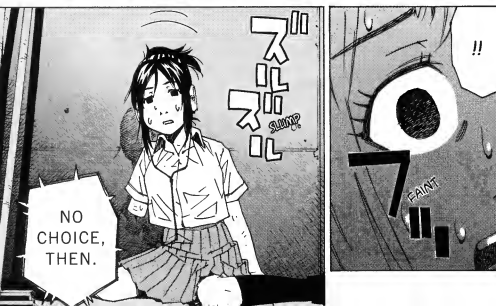




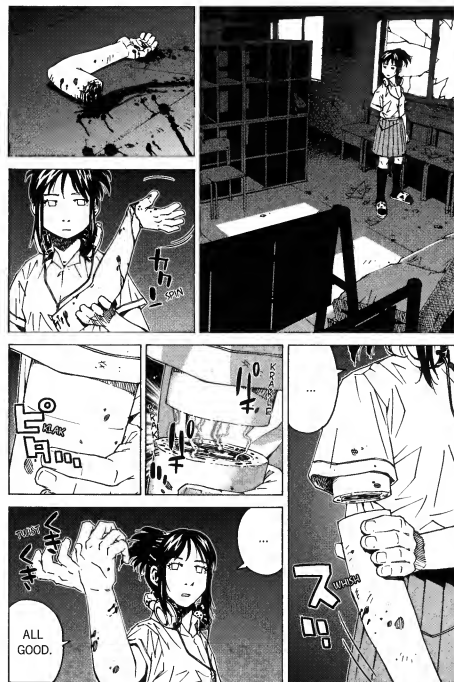
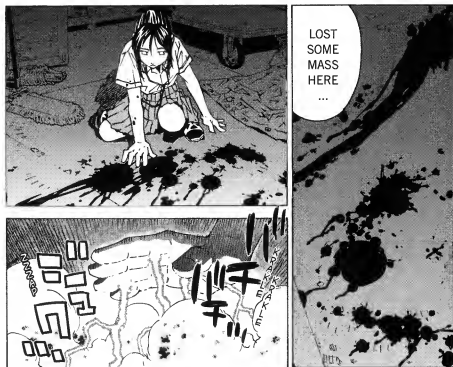




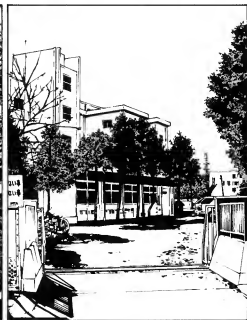
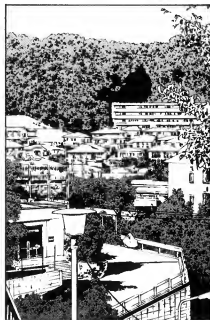


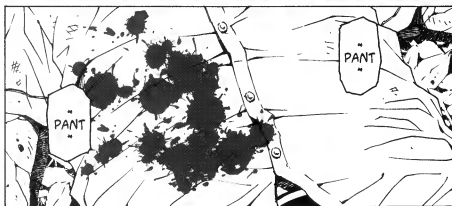




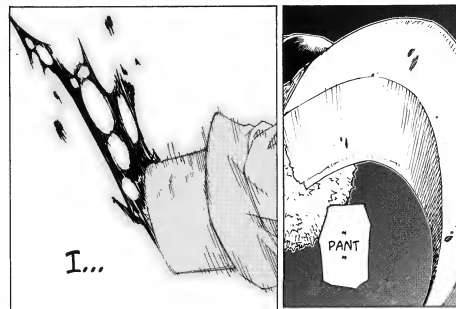
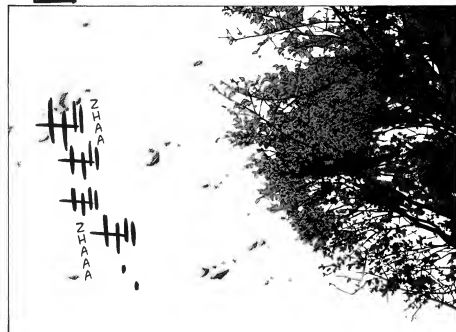




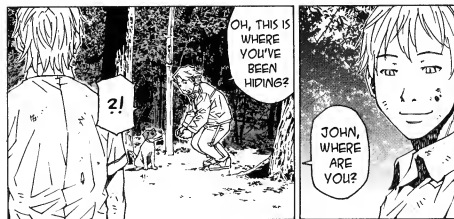


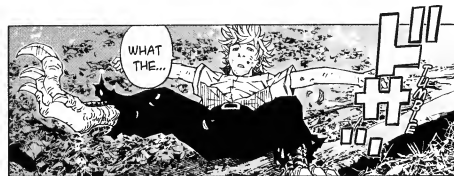




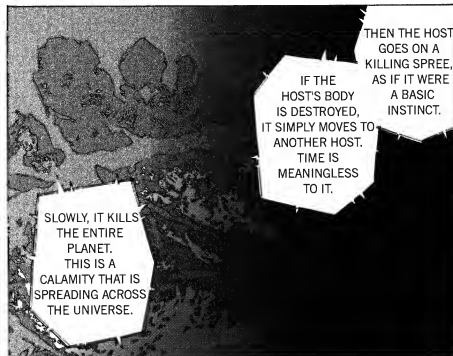
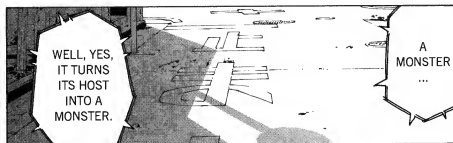
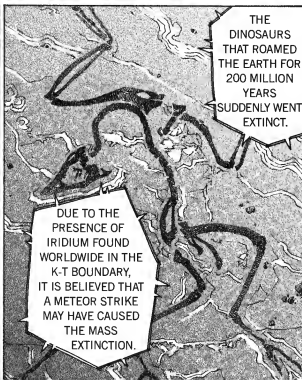














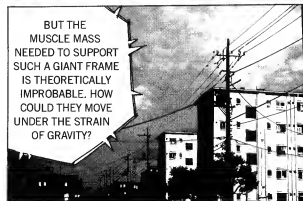
MAELSTROM



AND NOW  
IT'S BACK  
ON THIS  
PLANET.



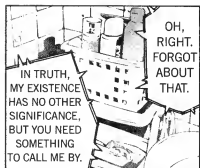
WITH ITS  
POWER,  
THEY WERE  
ABLE TO  
RAPIDLY  
MUTATE.



BUT THE  
MUSCLE MASS  
NEEDED TO SUPPORT  
SUCH A GIANT FRAME  
IS THEORETICALLY  
IMPROBABLE. HOW  
COULD THEY MOVE  
UNDER THE STRAIN  
OF GRAVITY?



YOU'VE SEEN  
THOSE DRAWINGS  
OF GIANT  
DINOSAURS,  
OVER  
100 FEET  
LONG.



OH, RIGHT. FORGOT ABOUT THAT.

IN TRUTH, MY EXISTENCE HAS NO OTHER SIGNIFICANCE, BUT YOU NEED SOMETHING TO CALL ME BY.



ANYWAYS, THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

OH REALLY.



OKAY, HORIZON.

YOU CAN CALL ME HORIZON.



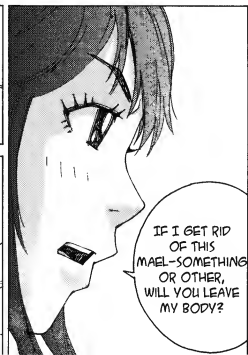
OF COURSE.

WHY DID YOU HESITATE?



SO WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?

OKAY, FINE.



IF I GET RID OF THIS MAEL-SOMETHING OR OTHER, WILL YOU LEAVE MY BODY?



DINNER'S NOT READY YET SO HOP IN THE BATH!

WEL-COME BACK!



I'M HOME.



WHEN IT CUT OFF YOUR ARM, I BURNED OFF ITS CLAW.



IT KNOWS I'M HERE. I DON'T KNOW IF THE HOST RECOGNIZED YOU OR NOT.

THE SMELL OF BLOOD ...



IT IS RID OF ME, ITS NEMESIS.

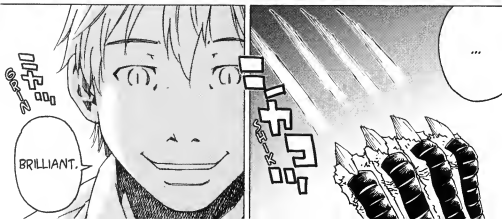
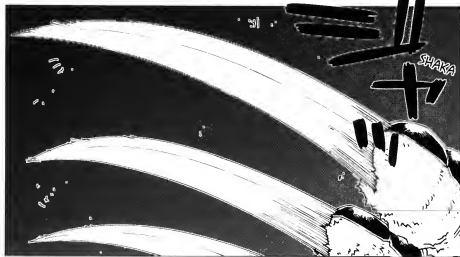
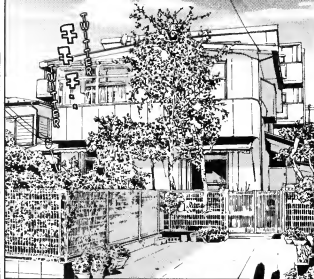
IN ANY CASE, IT WILL KEEP GOING BACK TO THAT SCHOOL UNTIL

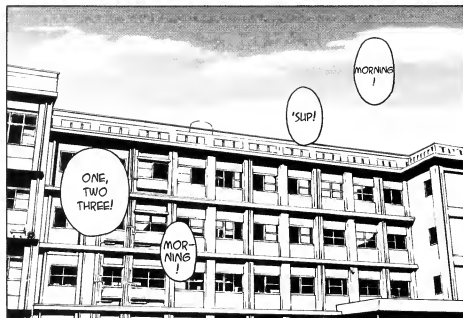


IT'LL PROBABLY GO BACK TO THE SCHOOL.

WHY?

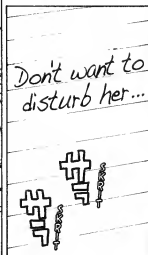
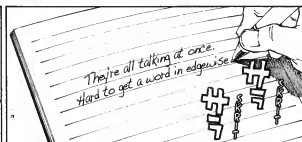


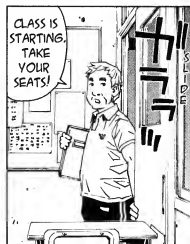


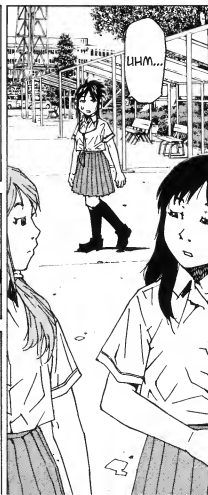
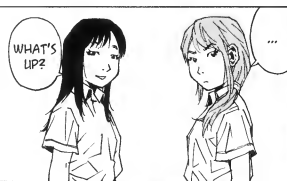
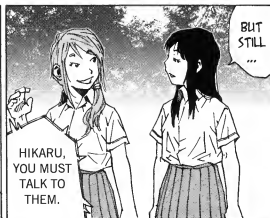


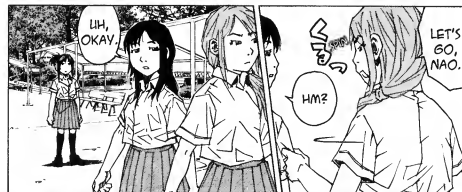
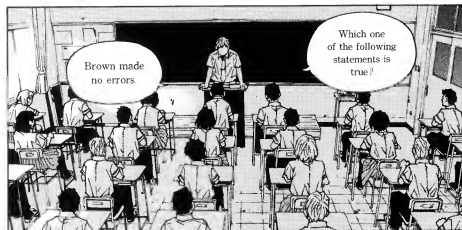
#### 4. Investigation

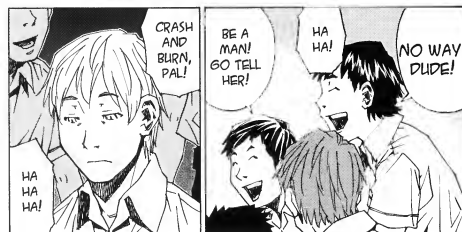














BUT I  
REALLY  
WANT TO  
KILL THEM!!



AW,  
HE'S  
SHY!

WHY SO  
SILENT?

HA HA  
HA!



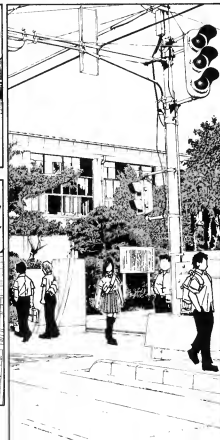
YOU  
SEEM  
TIRED.

SIGH



REALLY?  
BUT YOU  
ONLY  
TALKED TO  
3 PEOPLE!

IT'S MY  
NERVES.



UGH...  
I WANT TO  
KILL THEM  
ALL!



NO NEED TO  
ANGER HIM, EITHER.  
MY CURRENT  
OBJECTIVE  
IS TO GET RID  
OF HIM SURELY  
AND QUIETLY.



NO, I CAN'T  
KILL THEM HERE.  
HE'LL FIND ME  
OUT.



WHAT'S  
WRONG,  
MAN?



YOU DIRTY  
TRAITOR!

THAT'S WHAT  
WE WANT YOU  
TO DO!

DIE!

I TOLD YOU  
NOT TO PLAY  
WITH THAT GIRL  
ANYMORE!

LEAVE  
OUR  
ISLAND!



WHAT.

HM?

OH  
REALLY  
?

...I'M  
NOT  
AFRAID.

I RECOGNIZE  
A VOICE  
UP AHEAD.

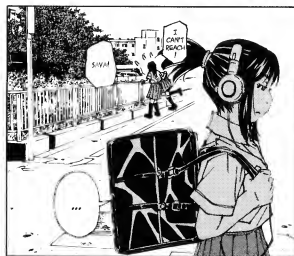
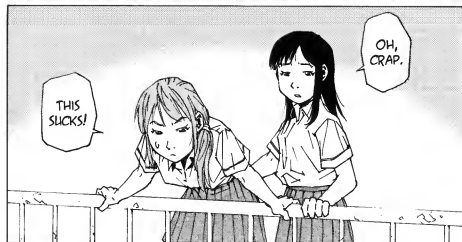
HUMPH!

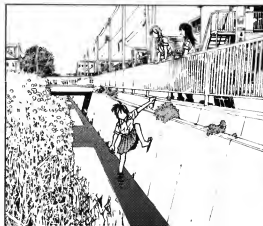
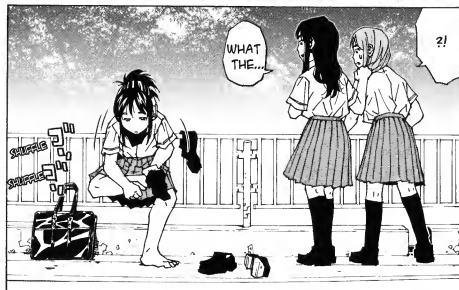
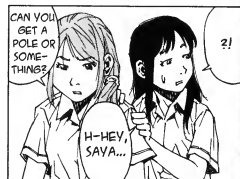
BY THE TIME  
YOU FIND IT,  
THIS PLANET  
WILL ALREADY  
BE DEAD.

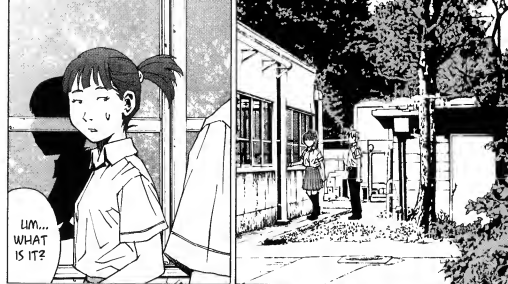
POSSIBLE

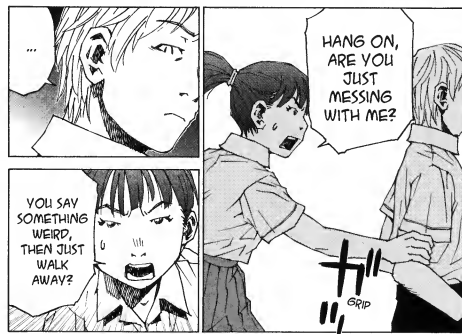
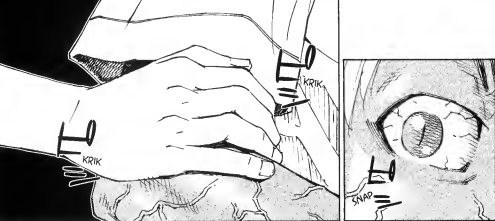
POSSIBLE

SO WHY ARE YOU  
SO AFRAID OF  
CONNECTING  
WITH OTHERS?

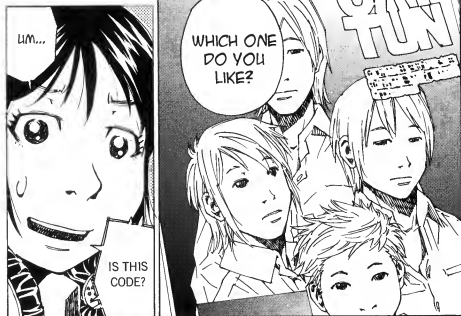










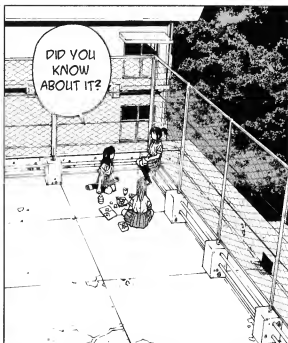


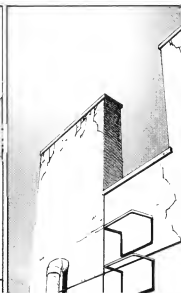
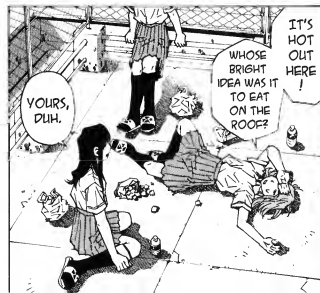
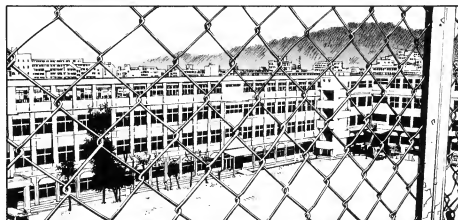


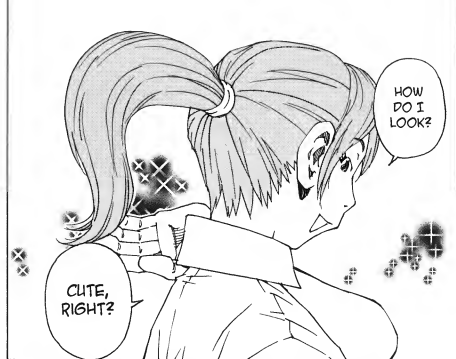
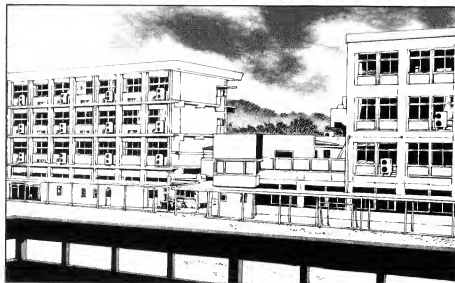
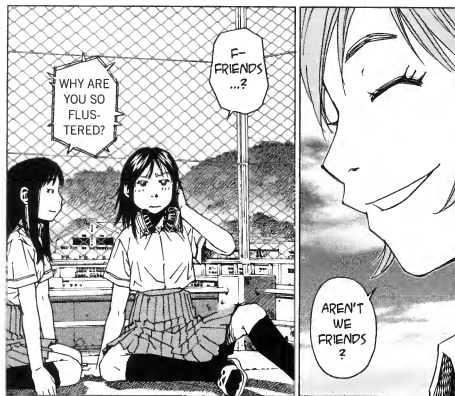
## 5. Friends













REALLY,  
IT IS!



IT'S  
CUTE,  
HIKARU!

HA HA  
HA

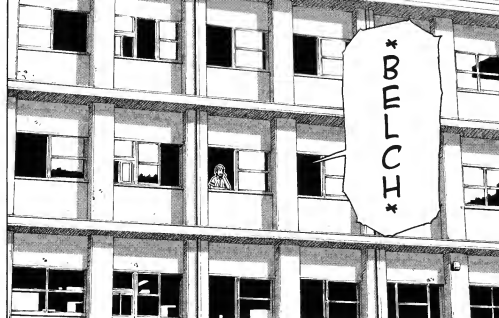


"SIGH"



YOU  
SHOULD  
LET IT  
DOWN  
EVERY  
DAY!

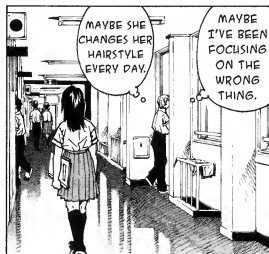
HA HA  
HA!



\*BELCH\*



"HRRP"



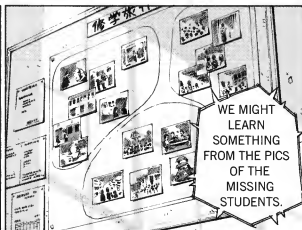
MAYBE SHE  
CHANGES HER  
HAIRSTYLE  
EVERY DAY.

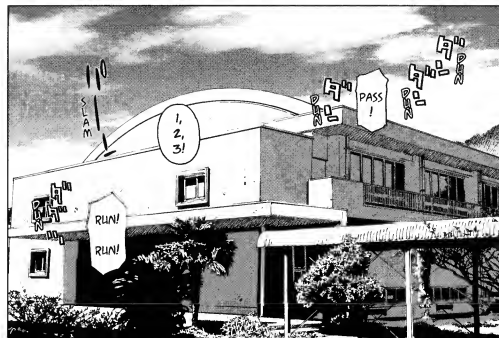
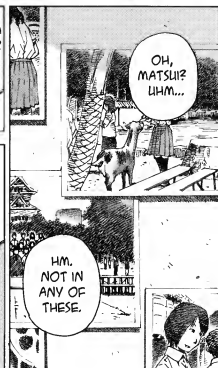
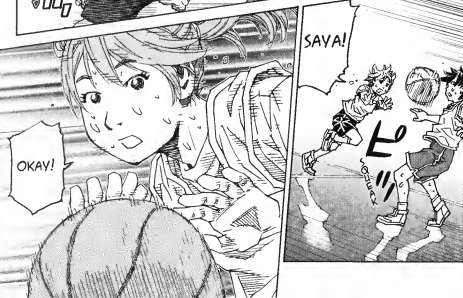
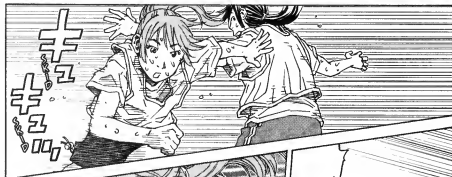
MAYBE  
I'VE BEEN  
FOCUSING  
ON THE  
WRONG  
THING.

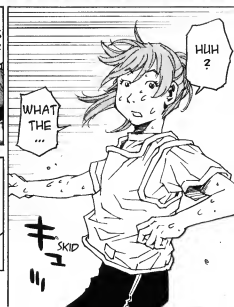
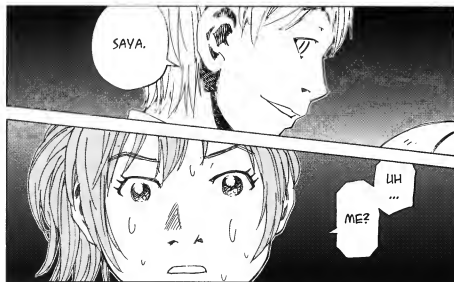
BUT  
NONE  
HAVE HAD  
HIM  
INSIDE.

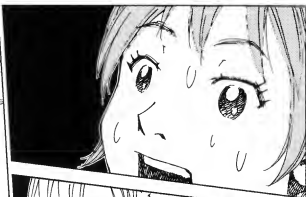


I'VE  
GOTTEN  
EIGHT  
PEOPLE  
IN FIVE  
DAYS,





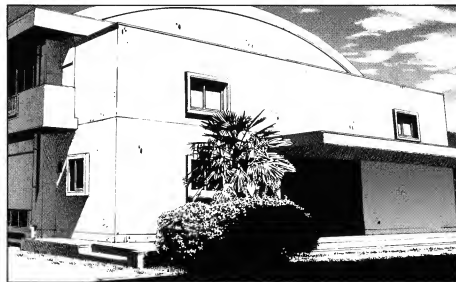
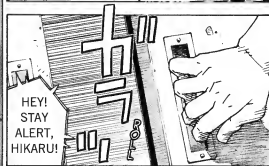
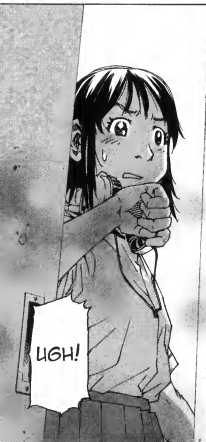




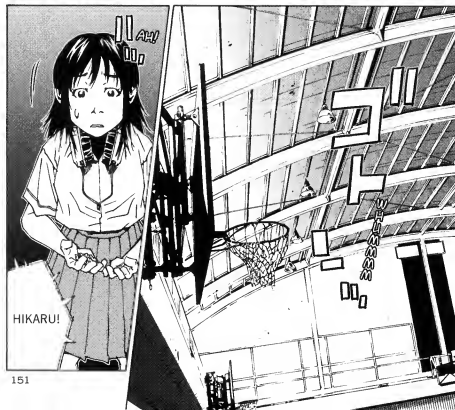
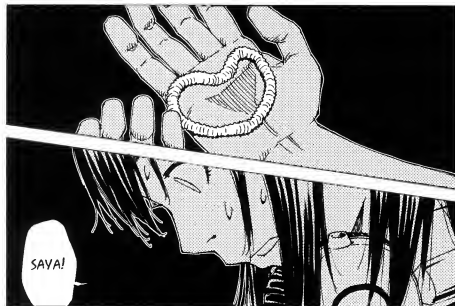












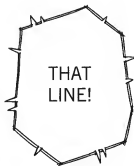




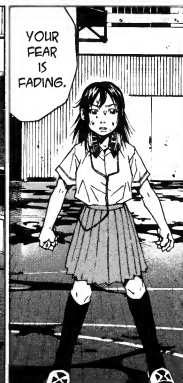
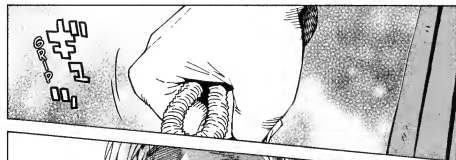
## 6. The Contract of Light















ONE  
MORE  
STEP...



GIVE ME  
YOUR FEAR!!  
ALL OF IT!!



YOUR  
CREEPING  
FLESH...

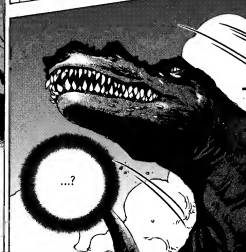
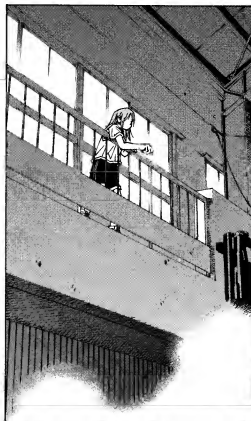
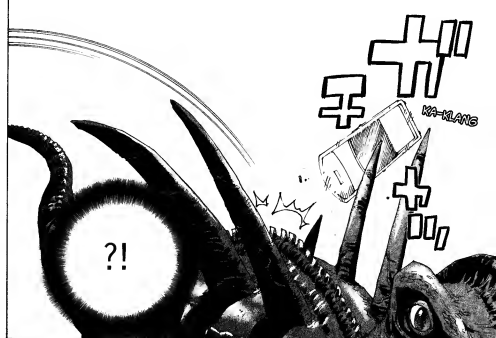
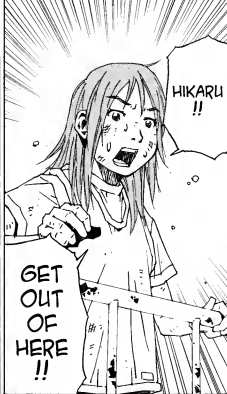


YOUR RACING  
HEARTBEAT  
AND CHOKED  
BREATH...



YOUR TEARS  
BLURRING  
THE REALITY  
YOU DON'T WANT  
TO SEE...









DON'T BE  
SHOCKED,  
HIKARU.



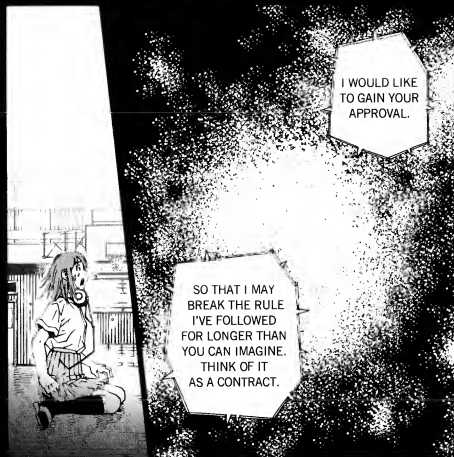






I MUST HAVE UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO YOUR BODY.

IN ORDER TO SAVE SAYA, I MUST CONTRAVENE THAT LIMITATION.



I WOULD LIKE TO GAIN YOUR APPROVAL.

SO THAT I MAY BREAK THE RULE I'VE FOLLOWED FOR LONGER THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE. THINK OF IT AS A CONTRACT.



CONFORMING TO THAT CODE,

I HAVE AN ABSOLUTE MORAL CODE THAT SUPERSEDES ALL ELSE: I MUST NOT IMPAIR ANY SENTIENT BEING.

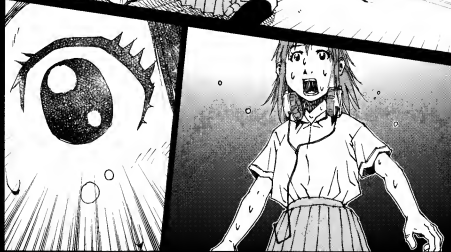
I HAVE MADE YOUR BODY MOVE ACCORDING TO MY WILL TWICE BEFORE.

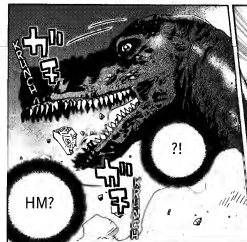
I HAVE RESPECTED MY HOST ORGANISMS AND RULED OUT MANIPULATING THEIR BODY.

BUT BOTH TIMES, I DID SO BECAUSE I HAD TO. YOU'D LOST AWARENESS.



THAT, HOWEVER, PREVENTS ME FROM USING THE FULL EXTENT OF MY POWERS.











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mous